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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/521,385	01/18/2005	Frank Dumont		2339
7590 Joseph S Tripoli Thomson Licensing Inc Patent Operations PO Box 5312 Princeton, NJ 08543-5312		11/29/2007	EXAMINER YENKE, BRIAN P	
			ART UNIT 2622	PAPER NUMBER
			MAIL DATE 11/29/2007	DELIVERY MODE PAPER

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Office Action Summary	Application No.	Applicant(s)
	10/521,385	DUMONT ET AL.
	Examiner	Art Unit
	BRIAN P. YENKE	2622

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --
Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) Responsive to communication(s) filed on _____.
- 2a) This action is **FINAL**. 2b) This action is non-final.
- 3) Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) Claim(s) 1-9 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) Claim(s) 1-9 is/are rejected.
- 7) Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) The drawing(s) filed on 18Jan05 is/are: a) accepted or b) objected to by the Examiner.
 Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
 Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) All b) Some * c) None of:
 1. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08)
 Paper No(s)/Mail Date 18 Jan 05.
- 4) Interview Summary (PTO-413)
 Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____.
- 5) Notice of Informal Patent Application
- 6) Other: _____.

DETAILED ACTION

Information Disclosure Statement

1. The specification lists EP-1128673 however not citation of such was submitted on the PTO-1449, thus the examiner has considered the reference as annotated on the attached PTO-892.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

2. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

Claims 1-8 rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over EP-11128673

(Applicant's Admitted Prior Art (AAPA) in view of EP-1389872 and Han, US 6,175,387.

In considering claims 1 and 7,

- a) the claimed a digital encoder...is met by encoder 116 (Figs 2c/d)
- b) the claimed a digital decoder is met by decoder 122 (Figs 2c/d)

However, AAPA does not explicitly recite synchronizing the second analog to the first analog signal, nor the determining the occurrence of said time window.

The concept of synchronization two or more signals is known in order to provide a suitable display. Since various signals, typically include different offset/frequency/timing intervals (i.e. active/inactive) video they must be synchronized in order to be displayed alternatively or at the same time (i.e. PIP). This concept is also evidenced as shown in EP-1389872 which discloses the feature of

synchronizing the encoding operations of two video signals RGB1 and RGB2 (shown on front page), wherein the signals are synchronized by using the vertical and horizontal retrace periods of the signal.

Thus it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to modify AAPA with that of EP-1389872 in order to provide the advantages as noted above.

Regarding the determining the occurrence of the time window, the examiner will rely upon Han, US 6,175,387 which discloses the concept of displaying two signals (i.e. PIP) wherein the sync components of each signal are used to combine the image (Figs 5-10).

Thus it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to modify AAPA/EP1389872 which discloses a synchronized video apparatus, by synchronizing such signals by using the timing information from the respective video signals as done by Han.

In considering claims 2-6,

The combination above discloses the features of a sync separator/means for synchronizing wherein the signals derived from the sources would be high/low or not according to the received waveform/pattern. Regarding the CVBS signal AAPA discloses the reception of such signal.

In considering claim 8,

The system includes a selector (mux 118) which is connected (coupled) to the display via the decoder.

Claim 9 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over EP-11128673 (Applicant's Admitted Prior Art (AAPA) in view of EP-1389872

In considering claim 9,

- a) the claimed a digital encoder...is met by encoder 116 (Figs 2c/d)
- b) the claimed a digital decoder is met by decoder 122 (Figs 2c/d)

However, AAPA does not explicitly recite synchronizing the second analog to the first analog signal.

The concept of synchronization two or more signals is known in order to provide a suitable display. Since various signals, typically include different offset/frequency/timing intervals (i.e.

active/inactive) video they must be synchronized in order to be displayed alternatively or at the same time (i.e. PIP). This concept is also evidenced as shown in EP-1389872 which discloses the feature of synchronizing the encoding operations of two video signals RGB1 and RGB2 (shown on front page), wherein the signals are synchronized by using the vertical and horizontal retrace periods of the signal.

Thus it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to modify AAPA with that of EP-1389872 in order to provide the advantages as noted above.

Conclusion

3. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure—see newly cited references on attached form PTO-892.
4. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Brian Yenke whose telephone number is (571)272-7359. The examiner work schedule is Monday-Thursday, 0730-1830 hrs.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's Supervisor, David L. Ometz, can be reached at (571)272-7593.

Any response to this action should be mailed to:

Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks
Washington, D.C. 20231

or faxed to:

(571)-273-8300

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the Technology Center 2600 Customer Service Office whose telephone number is (703)305-HELP.

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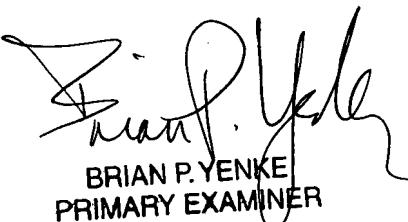
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B.P.
09 November 2007


BRIAN P. YENKE
PRIMARY EXAMINER